

UNAPPROVED

There was a regular meeting of the Cumberland School Committee held on Thursday, March 22, 2012 at the Cumberland High School Transitional Building Cafetorium, 2602 Mendon Road, Cumberland, Rhode Island.

Members Present: Jeff Mutter, Lisa Beaulieu, Linda Teel, John Gibbons, Daniel Pedro, Erika Sanzi, Earl Wood

Administration Present: Dr. Philip Thornton, Superintendent, Joseph A. Rotella, Director of Administration, Alex Prignano, Business Manager

Agenda Item #1: Chairman Convenes Meeting

Chairman Mutter convened the meeting at 7:32 p.m.

Agenda Item #2: Pledge of Allegiance

Agenda Item #3: Approval of Agenda

Mr. Wood made a motion to approve the agenda, 2nd Mrs. Teel, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #4: Consent Agenda

A. Approval of Minutes

1) Special Meeting 3/1/12, 2) Regular Meeting 3/8/12

B. Approval of Minutes

1) Executive Session 3/8/12

Mrs. Beaulieu made a motion to approve Special Meeting minutes 3/1/12, Regular Meeting minutes 3/8/12 and Executive Session Meeting minutes 3/8/12, 2nd Mrs. Sanzi, approved 7-0. It was noted that Mr. Pedro was absent for the Regular Meeting of 3/8/12 and the Executive Session of 3/8/12.

Agenda Item #5: Report of Executive Session Meeting on 3/22/2012

A. Report of Executive Session Vote – the SC voted 7-0 to deny ICSE Grievance 11-12-01, the SC also voted 7-0 to resolve grievance #-11-12-15 and accept letter of resignation of employee, and the SC voted 7-0 to send (under Personnel Matters) a statement of cause letter to tenured teacher who had previously received notice of dismissal.

B. Vote to seal minutes of executive session – Mr. Wood made a motion to seal minutes of executive session, 2nd Mrs. Sanzi, approved 7-0.

Agenda Item #6: Student Government Report

Past events included Bingo at Grandview Nursing Home, Daffodil Days - \$145 given to Cancer charity, peanut butter collected to give to local food banks. Upcoming and ongoing – Pennies for Patients – benefits the Leukemia Society, Academic Showcase on March 29th, March 30th is the Spring Fling at Our Lady of Fatima Church Hall, April 16th – 20th is Spring vacation, April 27th – April 30th is the

Grad Nite trip to Disney!

Agenda Item #7: Comments from the Public

No comments at this time.

Agenda Item #8: Reports of Standing Committees

A. Payment of Bills – Mr. Wood said there were no payments to report at this time.

Mrs. Teel noted that the Policy Sub-Committee would be meeting on Tuesday, April 10th @ 7 p.m.

Agenda Item #9: New Business

A. Pursuant to the RIGL 42-46-5 – Exception (9) Grievances:

1)Vote on ICSE Grievance - #11-12-01 – SC voted 7-0 to deny ICSE Grievance

#11-12-01.

2)Vote on CTA Grievance - #11-12-15 – SC voted 7-0 to resolve grievance

#11-12-15 and accept letter of resignation of employee.

B. Home School Instruction Requests 2011-2012 – there were no requests at this time.

C. Discussion and/or vote to approve 2nd reading of Policy – LBC-RA Procedure

for Loan of Textbooks to Non Public School Students – Mrs. Teel noted that

nothing had changed on the policy and with that she made a motion to wave

the 2nd reading, 2nd Mr. Gibbons and Mr. Pedro, approved 7-0. Mrs. Teel then

made a motion to approve policy LBC-RA Procedure for Loan of Textbooks

to Non Public School Students, 2nd Mrs. Beaulieu and Mrs. Sanzi, approved 7-0.

D. Students Discussion and/or vote to approve Resolution SC-R-2012-02: GASB

54” Assignment of Existing Fund Balance Amounts – Mrs. Beaulieu made a

motion to remove the word “Students” from this agenda item (it was typed

on the agenda incorrectly), 2nd Mr. Gibbons, approved 7-0. Mr. Wood then

made a motion to approve Resolution SC-R-2012-02 “GASB 54”, 2nd Mrs.

Beaulieu, approved 7-0. Alex noted that there are new standards in GASB 54

which gives the district maximum use of the fund balance.

E. Discussion and/or vote to approve Resolution SC-R-2012-03: Support of June 1 Layoff Notification Date/2012 – H7272 – Mrs. Beaulieu made a motion to approve Resolution SC-R-2012-03 – Support of June 1 Layoff Notification Date/2012 – H7272, 2nd Mrs. Sanzi, approved 7-0.

F. Discussion and/or vote to approve Resolution SC-R-2012-04: Opposition of Binding Arbitration/2012 – H7617 & H7620 – Mrs. Beaulieu made a motion to approve Resolution SC-R-2012-04: Opposition of Binding Arbitration/2012 – H7617 & H7620, 2nd Mrs. Sanzi, approved 7-0.

G. Discussion and/or vote to approve Resolution SC-R-2012-05: Opposition of Contract Continuation/2012 – H7250 & S2532 – Mrs. Beaulieu made a motion to approve Resolution SC-R-2012-05: Opposition of Contract Continuation/2012 – H7250 & S2532, 2nd Mr. Wood, approved 6-1, Mr. Gibbons voted no.

H. Math Intervention Program Update – Mr. Chris Scott gave an update on this mandated program – the name for it is SIMS – Students Improving Math Skills – in November, 2011 Geometry students were assessed to determine a baseline and to see who needed this program. The program is 4 days/week, 2 days after school and 2 days during school, it is mandatory and the students work on targeted objectives. Their progress is monitored every 3 weeks. Mr. Scott showed everyone a graph that reviewed each student and their progression since they began the program (students have been tested twice since November), by reviewing these graphs Mr. Scott said that at some point they may be able to determine how a student could do on the state tests. To exit this program a student needs to achieve a scaled score of 850 (which means 9th grade level) three times in a row – once the student exits the program, he or she will be monitored to be sure that the skills learned are retained. Mr. Scott stated that 23 of 26 sophomores in the

program have experienced a grade equivalent increase – the average increase was 1.6 years. Mr. Scott was happy with the progress. All juniors have shown progress equal to 2.2 years. Mr. Scott noted that there will be Star testing on 4-5-12 and the next session starts on 4-10-12 running through 6-7-12. Mr. Scott also noted that they are in the process of implementing a middle school intervention program – so far they have identified 35 students in both middle schools – they are targeting the sixth graders first. Mrs. Beaulieu asked if there were any thoughts on taking this as summer school and Mr. Scott said yes there were, he would like to see more subjects added to summer classes and possibly one that would assist with NECAP testing. Dr. Thornton then asked Mr. Scott for an update on the textbooks at the middle schools. Mr. Scott said that there was another vendor in the day before this meeting and he said he was impressed with them – the series would get updated with Park assessments and had guidelines for teachers to support all types of learners – thru high end learners. Mrs. Sanzi congratulated Mr. Scott on a good job with the Math Intervention Program.

I. FY2013 Budget Workshop – Dr. Thornton gave updates since the last budget workshop – health claims now at \$240,000 (was \$269,000), modeling to put middle school sports and lacrosse back in budget, reviewing \$20,000 for library books, charter school numbers – off by \$234,000, Alex noted that on page 87 of the budget, the \$49,000 figure that was questioned is a number of small accounts in the elementary schools, such as soda funds, Feinstein dollars, etc., they are all grouped into one account which equals the \$49,000. Mr. Mutter

thought that it would be best to wait to ask questions concerning all of these issues mentioned above until Tuesday, March 27th – when there will be another budget workshop meeting and Dr. Thornton agreed. Mr. Mutter asked Alex to provide all the updates to the budget to the SC prior to Tuesday's meeting so that they can review before the meeting.

Agenda Item #10: Personnel Recommendations

Mr. Rotella had the following personnel recommendations:

Appointment

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the appointment of William Hogan, Boy's Baseball Coach, at Joseph L. McCourt Middle School, effective 3/23/2012. (budgeted

Retirements

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the retirement of Paula Appel, Special Educator, at Cumberland High School, effective 6/30/2012.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the retirement of Janet D'Ambra, Special Educator, at Garvin Memorial School, effective 3/20/2012.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the retirement of Gerard Ethier, Mathematics Teacher, at Cumberland High School, effective 6/30/2012.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the retirement of Carolyn Faubert, Library Media Specialist, at Systemwide, effective 6/30/2012.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the retirement of Russell Jones, Special Educator, at Cumerland High School, effective 6/30/2012.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the retirement of Theresa McMichael, Social Studies Teacher, at Cumberland High School, effective 6/30/2012.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the retirement of Anne Oldmixon, Library Media Specialist, at Systemwide, effective 6/30/2012.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the retirement of Valerie Poe, World Language Teacher, at North Cumberland Middle School, effective 6/30/2012.

I request the advice and consent of the School Committee on the retirement of Barbara Vanasse, Grade 6 Teacher, at Joseph L. McCourt Middle School, effective 6/30/2012.

Mrs. Sanzi made a motion to approve all personnel recommendations, 2nd Mrs. Beaulieu, approved 7-0.

Mr. Gibbons asked Mr. Rotella how long the district pays healthcare to employees if they retire on 6/30/12 and Mr. Rotella said thru August, 2012.

Mr. Mutter asked Alex how many retirements were in the budget and Alex said all of them were in the budget.

Agenda Item #11: Comments from the Public

Peggy Wharton – Nursing Coordinator for the district noted that she was very concerned about the .2 cut at Cumberland Hill. She believes all elementary school students need access to nurses all day – she

believes that health education at Cumberland Hill will be jeopardized if this cut is made. Also, the high school nurses office is badly positioned and if the cut is made to have one nurse at the high school she wanted everyone to be aware that it could take as much as 10 minutes for the nurse to get from one building to the other. She went on to say that this was tried in 2008-09 and it was a dangerous situation – the following year .4 was added back. She spoke with Cumberland Rescue Director Sean Thompson and he gave her some figures and it does show that when the nurse positions get cut, the rescue runs go up – so rescue runs to the high school will increase if this cut happens. She said that the current nurse leaves her office 2 – 4 times/day to go to the severe profound room and she can be in there for at least 10-15 minutes – which means her office is locked. Mrs. Wharton said that the nurses do a lot more than pass out cough drops and band-aids – she does not support this idea at all. Dr. Thornton noted that in other school districts data shows one nurse/school.

Agenda Item #12: School Committee Comments (School Liaison Reports)

Mrs. Sanzi noted that it was Spirit Week at Community School and just wanted to thank everyone involved for a great job!!! Mr. Pedro wanted to remind everyone about the Clef Singers Reunion Concert on Saturday, March 31st at 7 p.m.

Agenda Item #13: Vote to go into Executive Session for Discussion

on Items Referred to in R.I.G.L. 42-46-5

Mr. Rotella stated that there would be no executive session tonight.

Agenda Item #14: Adjournment

Mrs. Sanzi made a motion to adjourn, 2nd Mr. Pedro, approved 7-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Meeting minutes respectfully submitted by Linda A. Jackvony